

Selah City Council
Study Session
May 13, 2008

Jerry Kobes introduced himself to the Council, noting he won't be putting his name in for the Council vacancy because he will be participating in a "lifetime opportunity" this summer, taking a bike ride from Seattle to the Statue of Liberty. He stated the bikers' goal is to end the cycle of poverty through CRWRC a Christian Reform World Relief Committee that is affiliated with his church. He noted there are many relief projects around the world where this group provides livestock, seeds, builds water systems, buildings, etc. He stated each participant has been asked to raise \$10,000 for their participation in this event. He said bikers will be leaving on the 30th of June and travel 3,881 miles averaging 70 miles each day. He said he is looking forward to the ride. He noted all the funds CRWRC raises go directly to relief; for example, some are now going to the area hit hard by Hurricane Katrina. He said a group of 127 people will be doing the entire ride and others doing part of it.

Mayor Jones noted Jerry Kobes is the only person participating from the State of Washington. He suggested Mr. Kobes would have a more comfortable ride if he borrowed Fire Chief Jerry Davis' Harley.

Jerry Kobes said the hardest leg will be the first day, climbing to Leavenworth, while in the Rockies the climb will be only 1000 vertical feet a day. He gave the web page for the event, www.SeatoSea.org.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet asked when Mr. Kobes started training.

Mr. Kobes responded he started about the first of November, and last weekend he rode the 90 miles down to Kennewick. He said while he didn't come before the Council to solicit funds, he would be glad to accept any donations he received.

After some discussion, Council Members expressed their congratulations and best wishes to Jerry Kobes. Mr. Kobes said he would be happy to take some Selah pins and pass them out to people.

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Mayor Jones introduced Clark Satre, Pacific Power, who noted he talked to the Mayor and City Supervisor about a program PPL has called "Blue Sky" which deals with renewable resources. The principle of the program is that customers can invest in renewable power through paying a little bit extra on their bill each month, and can invest in (purchase) reusable energy. He said some communities participate in a Community Challenge. In those instances a City usually takes the lead, or sometimes the Chamber of Commerce, or sometimes a combination. The City itself can become a green power partner by purchase a certain amount of renewable energy on their account. He noted if the City wants to make a challenge, they can get the community involved, and Pacific Power can help the City to start a "Blue Sky" challenge. He said that

usually takes about six months. He said PPL hopes to get some large accounts involved. Residents create numbers, but do not create significant energy savings.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet said the City is looking at solar powered street lights and solar power for Veterans Park. He noted the City's solid waste contractor BDI uses about 5,000 gallons of diesel fuel a month at about \$4.41 per gallon, so if the City could generate biodiesel for about \$.75 a gallon and sell it to BDI, we could help to stabilize garbage bills for our residents as well as use a by-product of the apple industry which is currently just thrown away. He stated there are lots of things the City can look at.

Clark Satre stated Pacific Power has grants available and will partner with cities on projects. He suggested a solar project at City Hall.

Councilman Herb Schmidt asked if PPL has researched farmers with processing manure into fuel.

Mr. Satre said he's aware of an anaerobic digester at the DeRuyter Dairy in Outlook, stating PP&L buys 1.2 megawatts of power from them. He said that dairy received a substantial federal grant for that because it not only produces power, it reduces dairy waste.

Councilman John Tierney stated he noticed an Oregon donation for salmon habitat. He asked if anything is being done for Washington salmon habitat.

Mr. Satre responded that Oregon is a little bit different; they set up the Energy Trust of Oregon where 3% of customers' bills goes to the Energy Trust of Oregon.

Fire Chief Jerry Davis asked if a resident bought a block for his home, how much would that increase his bill. Mr. Satre responded that if the resident purchased 100 kilowatt hours, there would be a \$1.95 increase in his monthly bill.

Clark Satre said City would be paying \$1.14 per block if they became a Power Partner, approximately \$4,000 per year on top of the \$340,000 they currently pay.

Mayor Jones said the City should take the lead in this and suggested we start with City Hall.

Councilman Tierney asked Mr. Satre how much of Pacific Power comes from hydroelectric.

Clark Satre responded the state doesn't count hydro power as renewable resource. He said they currently have 400 to 500 megawatts in wind energy out of 10,000 megawatts total. He noted they have 2 wind farms outside of Dayton, 1 outside of Goldendale, a couple in Oregon and several in Wyoming, and that they hope to reach 2,000 megawatts from wind power within two years.

At 3:40pm Mayor Jones declared a recess until the Council Meeting convenes at 4:00pm.